CREED OF A. LINCOLN
(in his own words)

DRAWER 4A PERSONAL FAITH

71. 2002. 085. 00030

Abraham Lincoln and religion

Creed of Abraham Lincoln

In his own words

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71. 2002. 085. 03230

CREED OF A. LINCOLN (in his own words)

DRAWER 4A PERSONAL FAITH

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The Creed of Abraham Lincoln in His Own Words

I believe in God, the Almighty Ruler of Nations, our great and good and merciful Maker, our Father in Heaven, who notes the fall of a sparrow, and numbers the hairs of our heads.

I believe in His eternal truth and justice.

I recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history that those nations only are blest whose God is the Lord.

I believe that it is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God, and to invoke the influence of His Holy Spirit; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon.

I believe that it is meet and right to recognize and confess the presence of the Almighty Father equally in our triumphs and in those sorrows which we may justly fear are a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins to the needful end of our reformation.

I believe that the Bible is the best gift which God has ever given to men. All the good from the Saviour of the world is communicated to us through this book.

I believe the will of God prevails. Without Him all human reliance is vain. Without the assistance of that Divine Being, I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail.

Being a humble instrument in the hands of our Heavenly Father, I desire that all my works and acts may be according to His will; and that it may be so, I give thanks to the Almighty, and seek His aid.

I have a solemn oath registered in heaven to finish the work I am in, in full view of my responsibility to my God, with malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right as God gives me to see the right. Commending those who love me to His care, as I hope in their prayers they will commend me, I look through the help of God to a joyous meeting with many loved ones gone before.

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Handout at Midwest CWRT Conference
4/30/94

National Magazine

April, 1920.

Creed of Abraham Lincoln

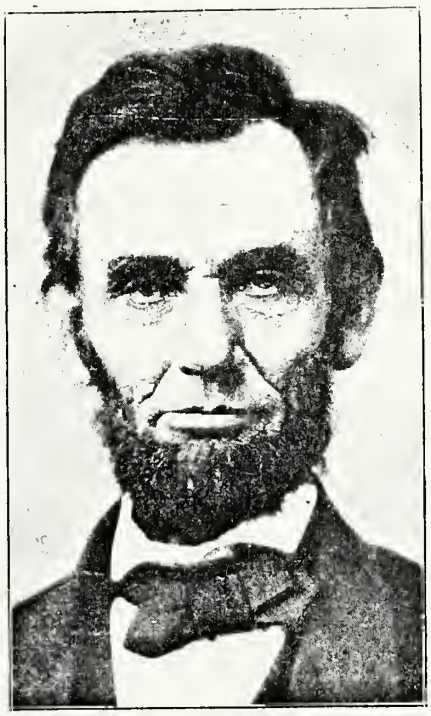
LET every American, every lover of liberty, every well wisher to his posterity swear by the blood of the Revolution never to violate in the least particular the laws of the country, and never to tolerate their violation by others. As the patriots of "Seventy-Six" did to the support of the Declaration of Independence, so to the support of the Constitution and the laws let every American pledge his life, his property and his sacred honor. Let every man remember that to violate the law is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the charter of his own and his children's liberty. Let reverence for the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe in her lap. Let it be taught in schools, in seminaries and in colleges. Let it be written in primers, spelling books and in almanacs. Let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls, and enforced in courts of justice. And, in short, let it become the political slogan of the Nation.

—*Abraham Lincoln.*

The International Journal of Religious Education

February, 1925.

The Faith of Abraham Lincoln, in His Own Words



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I believe that the Bible is the best gift which God has ever given to men. All the good from the Saviour of the world is communicated to us through this book.

I believe the will of God prevails. Without Him all human reliance is vain. Without the assistance of that Divine Being, I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail.

Being a humble instrument in the hands of our heavenly Father, I desire that all my words and acts may be according to His will; and that it may be so, I give thanks to the Almighty, and seek His aid.

I have a solemn oath registered in heaven to finish the work I am in, in full view of my responsibility to God, with malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right as God gives me to see the right. Commending those who love me to His care, as I hope in their prayers they will commend me I look through the help of God to a joyous meeting with many loved ones gone before.

—*William E. Barton in The Soul of Abraham Lincoln.*

The Creed of Abraham Lincoln

in His Own Words

I BELIEVE in God, the Almighty Ruler of Nations, our great and good and merciful Maker, our Father in Heaven, who notes the fall of a sparrow, and numbers the hairs of our heads. I believe in His eternal truth and justice.

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I BELIEVE that the Bible is the best gift which God has ever given to men. All the good from the Saviour of the world is communicated to us through this book.

I BELIEVE that it is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the over-ruling power of God, and to include the influence of His Holy Spirit; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon.

I BELIEVE the will of God prevails. Without Him all human reliance is vain. Without the assistance of that Divine Being I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail.

BEING a humble instrument in the hands of our Heavenly Father, I desire that all my works and acts may be according to His Will; and that it may be so, I give thanks to the Almighty, and seek His aid.

From the Life of Abraham Lincoln
by William E. Barton

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Michigan Tradesman
2-12-30

Answered _____

OFFICE OF PRESIDENT

THE CREED OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

IN HIS OWN WORDS

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From the Life of Abraham Lincoln, by William E. Barton.

Use reading 2/12/37

The Man of The People

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Abraham Lincoln's Creed

"I SINCERELY hope father may recover his health, but, at all events, tell him to remember to call upon and confide in our great and good and merciful Maker, who will not turn away from him in any extremity. He notes the fall of a sparrow, and numbers the hairs of our heads, and He will not forget the dying man who puts his trust in Him. . . . If it be his lot to go now he will soon have a joyous meeting with many loved ones gone before, and where the rest of us hope with the help of God ere long to join them."—*From a letter written by Lincoln to his dying father, January 12, 1851.*

"Without the assistance of that divine Being who ever attended him (Washington) I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail. Trusting in His care who can go with me, and remain with you, and be everywhere for good, let us confidently hope that all will yet be well. To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell."—*Farewell Address, Springfield, February 11, 1861.*

"Being an humble instrument in the hands of our Heavenly Father, as I am, and as we all are, to work out His great purposes, I have desired that all my works and acts may be according to His will; and that it might be so, I have sought His aid."—*Reply to Mrs. Gurney and deputation from Society of Friends, September, 1862.*

"In regard to the great Book, I have only to say it is the best gift which God has ever given man. All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated to us through this Book."—*Response to presentation of Bible.*

"God knows best . . . surely He intends some great good to follow this mighty convulsion, which no mortal could make and no mortal could stave. That you believe this I doubt not; and believing it, I shall still receive for our country and myself your earnest prayers to our Father in Heaven."—*From a letter to Mrs. Gurney, September 4, 1864.*—QUOTED BY BARTON in "*The Soul of Abraham Lincoln.*"

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This Creed of Abraham Lincoln is an extract from "The Soul of Abraham Lincoln" (Doran), by the Reverend William E. Barton, D. D. No liberties have been taken with Lincoln's sentences, all publicly uttered, except to change the past tense to the present, or the plural to the singular, and to add connectives and preface the words "I believe."

LINCOLN'S CREED

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BANK CLOSED MONDAY

The Tazewell County National Bank will be closed all day Monday in observance of Lincoln's birthday anniversary.

2/9/34

The Chicago Baptist News
February 1961

The Creed of Abraham Lincoln

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Quoted by William J. Wolfe in "The Almost Chosen People."
(Derived from Lincoln's writings.)